UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/775,862	02/01/2001	Chunguang Chris Liu	50325-0539	8413

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EXAMINER
PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2154	4

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-13_ is/are pending in the application.
     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-13_ is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
     a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some *   c) ☐ None of:
       1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
       2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
       3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Application Number 09/775, 862 was filed on 02/01/2001. Claims 1-13 are

subject to examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth
in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the
prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention
was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability
shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.   Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Carcerano et al. (hereinafter Carcerano)(US 6,308,205) in view of Garvey et al.

(hereinafter Garvey)(US 5,774,667).

Referring to claims 1 and 2,

The reference Carcerano teaches a system that allows a remote network user to view

and update the configuration of network devices by using a web browser on the user's

workstation. The system communicates with the web browser using hypertext transfer

protocol (HTTP). Requests from the browser are URL-encoded according to HTTP, and

are preferably URL-encoded for CGI scripts, ASP web pages, or any other scripts or

pages that can be used by the system to dynamically generate responses to the

requests. The responses to the web browser's requests preferably are in hypertext

markup language (HTML). (col. 1, lines 60-67 and col. 2, lines 1-4). (preparing a page

for sending to a client process from a server, the page comprising a form having a

plurality of input fields). As result of the system the web browser interface is displayed as shown in Fig. 7 which includes device status (element 125) (a state of a particular network device) and device features (element 127)(changing the state of the particular network device)(associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining information about a state of a particular network device, and a second submit method for changing the state of the particular network device; sending the page to the client process;). The reference also teaches that the device features 127 of Fig. 7 can be changed (changing the state of the particular network device) and in response to such changes, browser 83 sends an appropriate URL-encoded request identifying the targeted printer and the updated configuration data by HTTP server 103 runs the CGI script (or ASP web page) identified by the URL in the request so as to update database 105 accordingly. Then, network management server 104 modifies the status or configuration of the device according to the updated database as explained for Fig.7, (col. 12, lines 62-67 and col. 13, lines 1-17) (in response to activation in the client process, executing routines to operate on the particular network device based on a submit method associated with the form.) By teaching the use of ASP as indicated above, the reference teaches that ASP provides means for managing the display page state by placing values in hidden form elements where the form elements travel with the form page (the form includes a hidden variable having a value for uniquely identifying the particular network device). The reference fails to teach the submit button in the client process. The reference Garvey teaches a method of editing parameter settings for more than one network device where a set of network devices is displayed on a

display screen and to edit parameters for a particular network device, the user selects that network device on the display screen using a cursor control device. (col. 2, lines 6 10.) The reference also teaches the buttons in the client process that in response from the client process execute routines to operate on the particular network device based on a submit method associated with the form by stating "to set up additional parameters for the remote access server, the user selects the More button 450 that moves the user along to the second general setup window 500 as illustrated in FIG. 5. The second general setup window 500 allows the user to edit additional parameters that define the operation of the remote access server such as security hosts, a time host, a logging host, designate nameservers, and software options. Once the desired parameter changes have been made, the user selects the OK button 510 to return to the first general setup window 500. (col. 4, lines 52-61). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Carcerano by adding the buttons associated with the browser display of Garvey to execute routine for setting the parameters on the network devices (executing routines to operate on the particular network device based on a submit method associated with the form) such that the user has a management tool that allows each user to control, monitor and obtain the status and configuration of a plurality of network devices using a single and preferably familiar interface. In addition, this tool should allow many administrators to view and update the configuration of the network devices without generating excessive network traffic that can overburden those devices as taught by Carcerano.

Referring to claims 3 and 4,

The reference Carcerano teaches that it's management system is interposed between the administrators (or other users) and the network devices. The management system repeatedly polls the network devices for configuration information and maintains a database of this information. When the management system receives a request from a web browser for status or configuration information about a network device, the system generates an appropriate response based on the database rather than on information obtained directly from the network device. Likewise, when the management system receives a request from a web browser to change the status or configuration of a network device, the system updates the database according to configuration data in the request. The management system then updates the configuration of the network devices according to the updated database. (col. 2, lines 12-26 and Fig. 6 and Fig. 7, col. 12, lines 52-61). (determining whether a first variable for data input associated with the first submit method is empty, and if it is determined that the first variable is not empty, then executing get routines to obtain information about the state of the particular network device, and assigning values for the plurality of input fields based on the information about the state of the particular network device; and wherein the method further comprises sending the page to the client process including the form with the second submit method after said assigning.) The reference also teaches to select the device features from the list of device features, element 127, and the user can change device feature. As stated by the reference, in response to such changes, browser 83 sends an appropriate URL-encoded request identifying the targeted printer and the

updated configuration data. As discussed above, HTTP server 103 runs the CGI script
(or ASP web page) identified by the URL in the request so as to update database 105
accordingly. Then, network management server 104 modifies the status or
configuration of the device according to the updated database. (Fig. 7 and col. 12, lines
62-67 and col. 13, lines 1-17). (obtain the current values of the obtaining current values
of the plurality of input fields from a second variable associated with the second submit
method; and executing set routines to change the state of the particular network device
based on the current values of the plurality of input fields.)

Claims 5, 6 and 7,

The reference Carcerano teaches a system that allows a remote network user to view
and update the configuration of network devices by using a web browser on the user's
workstation. The system communicates with the web browser using hypertext transfer
protocol (HTTP). Requests from the browser are URL-encoded according to HTTP, and
are preferably URL-encoded for CGI scripts, ASP web pages, or any other scripts or
pages that can be used by the system to dynamically generate responses to the
requests. The responses to the web browser's requests preferably are in hypertext
markup language (HTML). (col. 1, lines 60-67 and col. 2, lines 1-5). Thereby the
reference teaches by the virtue of ASP and HTML, wherein the ASP page that contains
a form for data-entry into a database, the user navigates to the page, that is, an HTTP
GET causes the server to run the ASP to produce a page for the client. The browser
displays the page and the user enters data and submits the form, causing an HTTP
POST to the server. The server runs the ASP page again to process the post. The

code parses the post parameters, updates the database and produces a new version of the page for the client that informs the user the data has been successfully entered. In the HTML, request. querystring and request.form are conventional ways of passing information to a server page by building a query string into the URL passed to the server and passing user input to the server.

Referring to claims 8 and 9,

The reference Carcerano teaches a system that allows a remote network user to view and update the configuration of network devices by using a web browser on the user's workstation. The system communicates with the web browser using hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP). Requests from the browser are URL-encoded according to HTTP, and are preferably URL-encoded for CGI scripts, ASP web pages, or any other scripts or pages that can be used by the system to dynamically generate responses to the requests. The responses to the web browser's requests preferably are in hypertext markup language (HTML). (col. 1, lines 60-67 and col. 2, lines 1-5). The reference Carcerano teaches the processor that is configured for preparing a page and, executing routines are performed by the processor configured based on statements of a scripting language in a single script file. (Fig. 4, elements 91 and 106). The reference also teaches that if a URL-encoded request includes changes to the status or configuration of a device on network 1, the CGI script called by HTTP server 103 in response to that request enters those changes into database 105 which in turn changes the state of the network device. (col. 9, lines 38-42). The reference fails to teach the submit button in the client process. The reference Garvey teaches a method of editing parameter

settings for more than one network device where a set of network devices is displayed

on a display screen and to edit parameters for a particular network device, the user

selects that network device on the display screen using a cursor control device. (col. 2,

lines 6 10.) The reference also teaches the buttons in the client process that in

response from the client process execute routines to operate on the particular network

device based on a submit method associated with the form by stating "to set up

additional parameters for the remote access server, the user selects the More button

450 that moves the user along to the second general setup window 500 as illustrated in

FIG. 5. The second general setup window 500 allows the user to edit additional

parameters that define the operation of the remote access server such as security

hosts, a time host, a logging host, designate nameservers, and software options. Once

the desired parameter changes have been made, the user selects the OK button 510 to

return to the first general setup window 500. (col. 4, lines 52-61). Therefore, it would

have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

made to modify Carcerano by adding the buttons associated with the browser display of

Garvey to execute routine for setting the parameters on the network devices such that

the user has a management tool that allows each user to control, monitor and obtain the

status and configuration of a plurality of network devices using a single and preferably

familiar interface. In addition, this tool should allow many administrators to view and

update the configuration of the network devices without generating excessive network

traffic that can overburden those devices as taught by Carcerano.

Referring to claims 10 and 11,

Claims 10 and 11 are claims to a computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for configuring network devices, which instructions, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of method of claims 1 and 3. Therefore, claims 10 and 11 are rejected for the reasons set forth for claims 1, 3 and 4 and, the reference Carcerano's teaching of processor (Fig. 4, element 91) executing the instructions.

Referring to claim 12,

Claim 12 is a claim to a computer system for configuring network devices with a network interface; and one or more processors connected to the network interface, the one or more processors configured for carrying out the steps of method of claim 1. Therefore, claim 12 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1 and the reference Carcerano's teaching of processor (Fig. 4, element 91) and the network interface (Fig. 4, element 47).

Referring to claim 13,

Claim 13 is a claim to an apparatus for configuring network devices which provides the means to carry out the steps of method of claim 1. Therefore, claim 13 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (703) 305-2655. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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